

Mexican-American War

- **Annexation of Texas** (1845) – America adds Texas as the 28th state. Leads to Mex-Amer War
 - Population of Texas begins to grow with Americans starting in 1820, at request of Mexican gov't. Soon, Americans outnumber Mexicans in Texas.
 - In 1836, Texans declare independence and win "revolution" led by Sam Houston

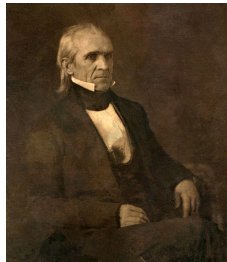




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James K. Polk – 11th president of the U.S. Inspired by Manifest Destiny to overspread the continent 1844-48.

- Was Speaker of the House and Governor of Tennessee, oversaw the opening of Smithsonian and construction of Wash. Monument
- Motivated to invade Mexico because of American military superiority, weakness of Mexico, and popular support



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- **Mexican American War** – 1846-48. War led by President Polk to invade and win new territory. Mexico's land is cut in half, America's land grows by a third.
 - War begins over border dispute – is Nueces River or Rio Grande the line btwn. Texas and Mexico?
 - Sends Zachary Taylor to Nueces to instigate conflict and a diplomat to Mexico City to negotiate purchase of Mexican lands.
 - War inflames tension among Americans over the question of slavery in new territory.

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- **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** (1848) Treaty that ends the Mex- Amer. War, adds 1.2m sq mi of territory to America
 - **Mexican Cession** – Territory that is ceded by Mexico, including CA, NV, UT, NM, and AZ.
 - America agrees to pay \$15m to Mexican gov't, forgives \$3.5m debt

